

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date  
6 March 2003 (06.03.2003)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number  
WO 2003/018396 A3

(51) International Patent Classification<sup>7</sup>:

B63C 9/22

(21) International Application Number:

PCT/DK2002/000678

(22) International Filing Date: 9 October 2002 (09.10.2002)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:  
PA 2002 00498 4 April 2002 (04.04.2002) DK

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): VIKING LIFE-SAVING EQUIPMENT A/S [DK/DK]; Sædding Ringvej, DK-6710 Esbjerg (DK).

(72) Inventor; and

(75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): NIELSEN, Peter, Brinch [DK/DK]; Lodsvænget 49, Hjerting, DK-6710 Esbjerg V (DK).

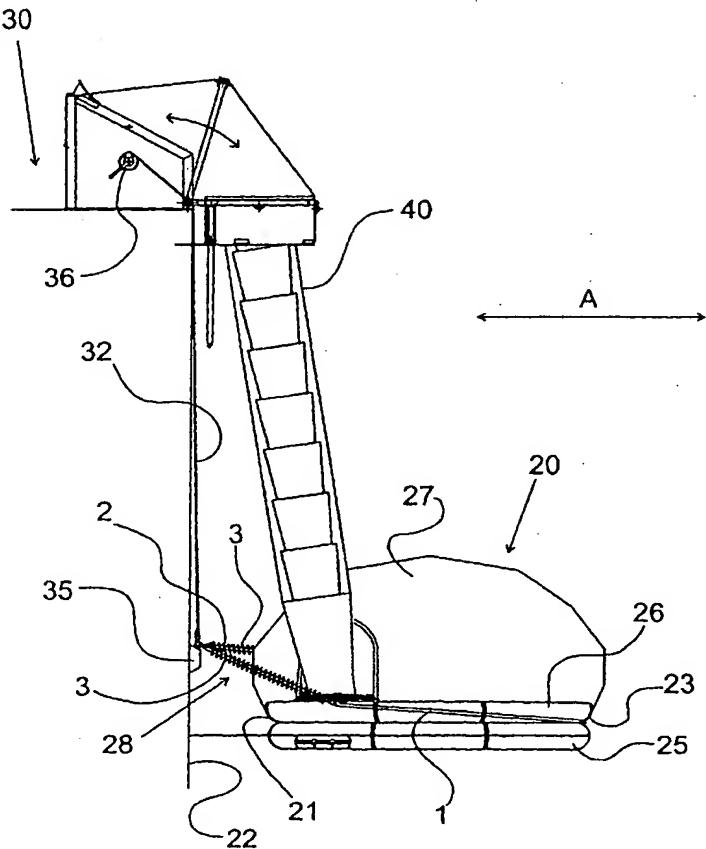
(74) Agent: AWAPATENT A/S; Teglholm Allé 13, DK-2450 København SV (DK).

(81) Designated States (national): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT (utility model), AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ (utility model), CZ, DE (utility model), DE, DK (utility model), DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE (utility model), EE, ES, FI (utility model), FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NO, NZ, OM, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK (utility model), SK, SL, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States (regional): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE, SK,

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: MOORING OF A FLOATABLE UNIT TO A VESSEL SIDE



(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to a floatable unit (20), such as liferaft or platform, having a first side (21) facing a vessel side (22) and a second side (23) facing away from the vessel side (22), said floatable unit (20) comprising a mooring system (28). The mooring system (28) comprises at least two back springs (2) which are in connection with the first side (21) of the floatable unit (20), said back springs (2) being adapted to control the floatable unit (20) in a longitudinal direction in relation to the vessel (30), at least one strap (1) which is in connection with the second side (23) of the floatable unit (20), said strap (1) being adapted to control the floatable unit (20) in a transverse direction in relation to the vessel (30), and said back springs (2) and said strap (1) being connected to the vessel (30). Hereby is obtained that the floatable unit in expedient manner is held in the secure and fixed position alongside the vessel side and thereby that the people, who are going to be evacuated from the vessel, are able to enter the floatable unit without any high risk for personnel damage.



TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

**Declarations under Rule 4.17:**

- *as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii)) for the following designations AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NO, NZ, OM, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB,*

*GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG)*

- *of inventorship (Rule 4.17(iv)) for US only*

**Published:**

- *with international search report*
- *upon request of the applicant, before the expiration of the time limit referred to in Article 21(2)(a)*

**(88) Date of publication of the international search report:**

4 March 2004

*For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.*

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Internal Application No  
PCT/DK 02/00678A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER  
IPC 7 B63C9/22

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)  
IPC 7 B63C B63B

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	GB 2 268 711 A (LAING & SONS LTD JAMES) 19 January 1994 (1994-01-19) the whole document ---	1-14
A	GB 2 105 264 A (RFD INFLATABLES LTD) 23 March 1983 (1983-03-23) the whole document ---	1-14
A	WO 95 35233 A (VIKING LIFE SAVING EQUIPMENT A ;ANDERSEN OLE (DK)) 28 December 1995 (1995-12-28) the whole document ---	1-14
A	DK 163 725 B (A/S NORDISK GUMMIBÄDSFABRIK) 30 March 1992 (1992-03-30) the whole document -----	1-14

 Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Patent family members are listed in annex.

## ° Special categories of cited documents :

- "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- "E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

3 February 2003

Date of mailing of the international search report

18. 02. 2003

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2  
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk  
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,  
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

GÖRAN CARLSTRÖM/JA A

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

Internal Application No.  
PCT/DK 02/00678

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date		Patent family member(s)		Publication date
GB 2268711	A	19-01-1994		NONE		
GB 2105264	A	23-03-1983	CA DK FR IT JP	1191743 A1 224782 A 2505767 A1 1147977 B 57194186 A		13-08-1985 19-11-1982 19-11-1982 26-11-1986 29-11-1982
WO 9539233	A	28-12-1995	AU WO	2669595 A 9535233 A1		15-01-1996 28-12-1995
DK 163725	B	25-07-1991	DK	19090 A ,B,		25-07-1991